



## PARISH OF GREAT BERKHAMSTED

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Meeting of the Parochial Church Council to be held via Zoom on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2020 at 8pm

### Minutes

1. Prayers led by Fr Simon
2. Apologies: Fr Joe Roberts
3. Notification of matters for consideration under Any Other Business
  1. TH: Zoom session with the Bishop
4. Approval of Minutes of the PCC Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2020 – Approved
5. Matters Arising - None
6. Standing Committee Reports
  - PCC Friends of St Peter's needed to reapply to the diocese for an amended faculty, this was put to the PCC on the 23<sup>rd</sup> June and approved.
  - Reopen the Church for Eucharist on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> July, **not** on the 5<sup>th</sup> July. The standing committee felt St Peter's needed to prepare properly for reopening and the success of the service on the 12<sup>th</sup> proved this was a sensible decision.
  - redundancy of Kate Perera's role in the Church Office, will discuss under Finance Committee.
7. Committee/Group Reports
  - Finance

RH distributed finance report prior to the meeting  
RH spoke to KP prior to the official redundancy and then wrote her a letter, this will take place at the end of the month. Fr Simon has offered her pastoral support. The sole reason for this is the current financial situation. The standing committee had to make a decision on behalf of the PCC before speaking to Kate but it had to be kept confidential. The PCC expressed their regret at the need to make her redundant. MG thanked RH and SV for his careful and sensitive handling of this matter. KP would like to say goodbye to St Peter's at some point and RH suggested a lunch for her later on. RH stressed that the gift must be kept completely separate from the redundancy settlement and wanted it to be made clear they had managed to negotiate a generous settlement. There was a conversation over the possibility of employing KP for freelance administration work, should St Peter's need it in the future. RC, with support of other members of the PCC, agreed this would not be legally appropriate and we would be better keeping our eyes out for other jobs and writing her a positive reference for these, should she want to apply for another job.
  - Buildings Committee

MG distributed Buildings Committees report prior to the meeting.  
TH – update on the Rectory: flooring has now finished and TH will ask RH to authorise the payment. Gas safety check completed. The volunteers have done a fantastic on the decorating and cleaning and TH expressed huge thanks to the volunteers who have gone above and beyond. Fr Stuart has invited them all for drinks as a token of his thanks.  
CG – flagged up the gate at the back of Priory Gardens on Green Lane that is being used by members of the public, he has been in touch with the officers of the Glebe department of the offices, the PCC need to ensure that anyone is not using this gate for access.  
SV questioned the current stability of the stable. It was agreed that fairly urgent contact is needed with Ian Blythe.

8. 800<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
PM: has chatted with CG and the architect who has lots of ideas that are in keeping with the design. PM needs to do a summary paper for the DAC. She has shared the idea with the FofB and Chris Moira who would like to be more involved. MG responded that in the past the FofB have focussed on the cemetery and been less interested with projects to do with the church. MG added that we would need to have early discussions with neighbours (including Berkhamsted School and Vivian Watson) to ensure we get them on board. The conclusion was that the PCC feel St Peter's need to take a lead on this project.
9. Worship  
SV felt he covered this in the service on Sunday. DN asked if SV could reiterate that the congregation must maintain social distancing at the end of the service.
10. Worship after lockdown  
PF distributed minutes from the Zoom meeting prior to PCC meeting.  
  
AC – is concerned that for older people coming into Church is their key social interaction. TH replied that he had discussed this with the Bishop and although the desirable is that everyone can get back to Church, there have been benefits to virtual worship during lockdown, for example: some people on the long term intercessions list have been able to watch the service, for some coming into a Church can be a daunting so watching online is more desirable.
11. Date of Next Meeting – **20<sup>th</sup> October (Fr Stuart will chair).**
12. Any Other Business  
TH noted that it was Fr Simon's last PCC and thanked him for all his work for St Peter's, particularly during lockdown.
13. The Grace